Removal of Quantitative Restrictions

5218. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Quantitative Restictions (QRs) will be completely removed by 1st April, 2001;

(b) whether it is the intention of Government to restrict import of luxury goods like cars, liquor etc; and

(c) whether tariff protection will be enough to control the likely flood of imports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) After April 1, 2001, it will not be possible to maintain quantitative restrictions on imports of any items. Protection to the domestic industry will be only through tariff which can be raised upto bound levels. Machanisms like Safeguards can be invoked to control the surge in imports if it causes or threatens to cause serious injury to the domestic industry.

Growth Centres Functioning in U.P.

5219. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of growth centres functioning at present in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of growth centres proposed to be established in the State during the next three years;

(c) the details of total fund allocated for the aforesaid purpose; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR'. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Under the growth centre scheme, eight growth centres are to be set up in Uttar Pradesh out of which seven have been sanctioned by the Central Government. For the remaining one to be set up in District Pauri-Garhwal, the revised project report is awaited from the State Government. The growth centres at Banthara (district Shahjahanpur) and Satharia (district Jaunpur) have become functional where plot allotment to industries has commenced. The remaining growth centres are at various stages of implementation.

(c) and (d) The contribution of the Central Government under the Growth Centre Scheme is limited to Rs. 10 crore per growth centre by way of equity (Rs. 15 crore in the case of North East Region). The State Government is responsible to source the balance funds and implement the project. The central assistance is released on the basis of the physical and financial progress made in the implementation of the Growth Centre by the State Government.

The details of the central assistance released for the seven sanctioned growth centres of Uttar Pradesh are as follow:

(Rupees in lakhs)

SL No.	Name of growth centre	Central assistance released
1.	Bijauli (District Jhansi)	150
2.	Banthara (District Shahjahanpur)	50
3.	Chaundharpur (District Moradabad)	50
4.	Dibiapur (District Auraiya)	50
5.	Khurja (District Bulandshahr)	420
6.	Satharia (District Jaunpur)	450
7.	Shajanwa (District Gorakhpur)	1000

Objectives of Growth Centre Scheme

5220. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the objective of Growth Centre Scheme have been achieved;

(b) how may growth centres are functioning in Orissa and total Central assistance provided to each centre; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) The objective of the Growth Centre Scheme is to create industrial infrastructure in backward areas. This involves long gestation period because of problems of site selection and land acquisition. The role of the Central Government is limited to contribute its equity of